

30th Annual Assembly Elects New Directors; Bardakjian Honored

Two new members were elected to the Board of Directors at the NAASR 30th Annual Assembly, which was held at the Sheraton Commander Hotel in Cambridge, Mass., on Saturday, November 10.

The new Board members are Sonia Bogosian of Flushing, N.Y., chairperson of the Department of Nursing of the DeWitt Nursing Home in New York City, and Rose Hovannessian of Arlington, Mass., chief bookkeeper and treasurer of the Diamond Antenna and Microwave Corp. in Winchester, Mass.

Reelected to the Board were Richard Ashton, Dr. Nishan Goudsouzian, Dr. Elizabeth A. Gregory, Prof. Aram S. Karakashian, Prof. Dennis R. Papazian, and Dr. Arthur S. Petoyan.

At the luncheon preceding the Assembly, Dr. Kevork Bardakjian, Senior Lecturer in Armenian at Harvard, was presented with the Jack H. Kolligian Memorial Award for meritorious achievement in Armenian studies and culture. The award carried a stipend of \$500.

Dr. Bardakjian is the author of a work on the Armenian satirist Hagop Baronian, a study of the Mekhitarist contribution to Armenian culture and scholarship, and (with Robert W. Thomson) of a textbook of modern Western Armenian. He returned to Harvard this year following a year as a visiting professor at the University of Michigan, where he taught courses in Armenian language and literature.

In the annual report to the Assembly, Board Chairman Manoog S. Young cited the various needs of the organization, including a new headquarters building and center of activities as well as the establishment of an Institute for Armenian Studies.

Among the NAASR programs in need of additional support are the Armenian Information and Education Center, the Armenian Reference and Research Library, the Armenian Book Clearing House, and the Armenian Heritage Press, Mr. Young said.

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Mardigian Issues Challenge Grant As \$2.5 Million Drive Intensifies

Edward Mardigian of Detroit, Mich., honored guest at the NAASR 30th Annual Assembly Banquet, gave a boost to NAASR's current \$2.5 million fund drive and issued a challenge to the organization's members and friends at the same time.

Mr. Mardigian, industrialist, philanthropist, and president of the Armenian General Benevolent Union of America, pledged to match by 20 percent all funds contributed to the NAASR fund drive. Mr. Mardigian's pledge was made retroactive to September 1 of this year and was greeted with sustained applause. It is a five-year pledge and could enhance the NAASR funds by several hundred thousand dollars if the fund drive total is realized.

"There is no question that NAASR has made a vital contribution to the Armenian community in America, for which we are all very grateful," Mr. Mardigian said in his brief remarks at the NAASR banquet, which was held on Sunday, November 11, in Memorial Hall, Harvard University,

Cambridge, Mass. "It is an organization worthy of our whole-hearted support."

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Raffi P. Yeghiayan (at the podium) presents the NAASR Distinguished Service Award to Edward Mardigian (left) at the NAASR 30th Annual Assembly Banquet. Looking on are Prof. Richard N. Frye and Prof. Pergrouhi Svajian.

Genocide Conference at Bentley to Hear Luis Kutner and Christopher Walker

Nearly twenty scholars and writers have already agreed to participate in the Genocide Conference at Bentley College next April 18-20, and the list is not yet complete.

Christopher Walker of London, author of *Armenia: The Survival of a Nation*, and Luis Kutner of Chicago, founder and director of the World Habeas Corpus organization, are among those who will present papers at the conference, which is sponsored jointly by NAASR and Bentley College.

Participants will also include author Helen Fein, Tufts University Provost Sol Gittleman, and Sybil Milton, author and Chief Archivist of the Leo Baeck Institute.

The organizing committee is now in the process of making the final arrangements for the 2½-day conference, in which representatives of the fields of politics,

higher education, government, and the public sector will participate.

Scholars interested in submitting papers for the Conference, whose theme is: "Seventy Years After the Genocide: Lessons from the Armenian Experience," are urged to submit abstracts, no more than two double-spaced typed pages, together with a curriculum vita by January 15. Those selected to submit papers will be notified.

All documents and correspondence concerning the Conference should be addressed either to Prof. Richard Geehr, Co-Chairperson, Organizing Committee, Bentley College, Waltham, Mass., 02254, or to Manoog S. Young, Co-Chairperson, Organizing Committee, NAASR, 175 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge, Mass. 02138 [Telephone:(617)876-7630].

Resolution Adopted Unanimously In Support of \$2.5 Million Drive

The following resolution was adopted unanimously by NAASR members at the 30th Annual Assembly on November 10, 1984:

Whereas: NAASR has embarked upon a \$2.5 million drive in order to provide the funds with which to improve the operations and functions of the organization as well as to increase, develop, and advance programs, entities, and activities for the perpetuation of Armenian studies, culture, and heritage; and

Whereas: the increasing emphasis should be on the dissemination of information and providing support services for the existing Armenian Studies endowed chairs and the other academic programs at American institutions of higher education as well as the secondary level programs in Armenian studies; and

Whereas: the realization of this fund drive goal as early as possible is most essential for the continued growth and more efficient operation of NAASR and for the need to provide more and better services for its membership as well as the academic and American Armenian communities;

Therefore Be It Resolved that this 30th Annual Assembly of the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research go on record to reaffirm its support of this major fund drive and to call upon all members of NAASR to support this effort individually through generous contributions above and beyond their membership support; and

Be It Further Resolved that all members be urged to aid this vital campaign during NAASR's 30th anniversary year through the solicitation of financial support from others, through helping to bring about a two-fold increase in the active membership of NAASR, and through more active participation in all ways and means to bring about the early successful conclusion of this fund drive.

Two New Memorial Funds

Endowed "name funds" have been established this year honoring in perpetuity the memory of loved ones and at the same time helping to advance Armenian studies and culture through the incomes which will be available from the invested funds.

Miss Zarouhi Noorjani of Milford, Mass., a charter NAASR member, has established a fund in memory of her grandmother, Mariam Torosian, who died in California, and her grandmother's blind sister, Antaram Jerahian, who perished in the desert during the 1915 Genocide.

The Zartarian Foundation of Arlington, Mass., has similarly established the General Sarkis M. Zartarian Memorial Fund in memory of the late founding member, treasurer, and Advisory Board co-chairman of NAASR and well-known community and church leader.

Name funds can be established with a minimum contribution of \$10,000, which is invested and managed by the NAASR Board of Directors.

*Invest in your Armenian
Heritage.
Have you included NAASR
in your will?*

Mardigian Challenge

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Announcement of Mr. Mardigian's pledge was made by Dr. Gregory H. Adamian, president of Bentley College in Waltham, Mass., and co-chairman of the NAASR \$2.5 million Endowment and Advancement Fund Campaign. NAASR Board Chairman Manoog S. Young is co-chairman of the fund drive, and Mr. Mardigian is the honorary chairman.

At the banquet, Mr. Mardigian was honored with NAASR's first Distinguished Service Award for his many contributions to further Armenian studies and culture and for his constant support of NAASR's programs.

Honored, also, with a similar award was Dr. Richard N. Frye, Aga Khan Professor of Iranian at Harvard, an internationally recognized authority on the Middle East, and a founding member as well as at present a Board member of the organization. One of the earliest and strongest supporters of NAASR's efforts and programs, Prof. Frye was a featured speaker at the banquet. Both honorees were greeted with standing ovations.

Approximately 250 persons attended the 30th Annual Assembly Banquet. The event served as a reunion for many members

who have participated in NAASR programs to advance Armenian studies in the United States, beginning with the establishment of a Chair in Armenian Studies at Harvard University. Memorial Hall was chosen as the site of the anniversary banquet because it was there that in 1959 the successful conclusion of the Harvard Chair Fund Drive was announced. A photographic collage of scenes from the organization's past on display at Memorial Hall drew the attention of many of the banquet guests.

Manoog S. Young, who has served as chairman of the NAASR Board of Directors since the organization's inception, spoke briefly at the banquet about the significance of NAASR's accomplishments in establishing and supporting Armenian Studies programs in colleges and universities across the United States.

NAASR's efforts have been a major factor in the "information explosion" in the field of Armenian studies which, in turn, has directed NAASR's efforts increasingly into the areas of gathering and dissemination of information, Mr. Young asserted. In serving as an information resource for the American newspaper, radio, and TV media, he pointed out, NAASR is providing information which is reaching millions of Americans as well as persons abroad.

In his address, Prof. Frye emphasized the unique role Armenians have played in the history of world civilization. "Armenia is

unique in the world not simply because it has survived for so many centuries, but because it has survived not by withdrawing into a shell or forming a ghetto, but by contributing to many other empires that have since disappeared," Prof. Frye pointed out.

Dr. Pergrouhi Svajian, Professor of Educational Psychology at Brooklyn College and a member of the NAASR Board of Directors, followed Prof. Frye to the podium. In her address, Prof. Svajian observed that the great accomplishment of NAASR has been "to bring the academic world and the community together in an organized fashion."

As NAASR enters its fourth decade, the challenge is to establish Armenian studies programs in all sections of the United States and, also, to strengthen NAASR's research arm as well as to expand NAASR's information and publication programs, Dr. Svajian said.

Rev. Dajad Davidian, pastor of St. James Armenian Church in Watertown, Mass., and Rev. Vartan Hartunian, pastor of the First Armenian Church, Belmont, Mass., both long-time NAASR members and supporters, offered, respectfully, the invocation and the benediction. Strolling violinist Anahid Avakian responded to requests for a wide range of Armenian and non-Armenian musical selections during the reception hour and dinner.

30th Annual Assembly

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In addition, funds are needed for academic and related programs, conferences, and especially for a multi-station computer and other equipment and for additional staff.

Mr. Young noted that NAASR has a broad base of support in the community, with members in 38 states and six continents. In its programs and activities, NAASR has worked together with a variety of compatible Armenian and other organizations, Mr. Young stated, and stands ready to continue this cooperation in the future.

Featured speaker at the luncheon, Richard Ashton, of Fresno, Calif., stressed the importance of inspiring the Armenian youth to be proud of their heritage. It is not enough to establish programs in Armenian studies in colleges and universities, Mr. Ashton said; the youth must be inspired to take part in these programs.

The Armenian American youth must realize that in order to be good Americans they must be made to understand and appreciate their Armenian ancestry and heritage, Mr. Ashton pointed out. NAASR and similar organizations have the responsibility to help the youth to keep the Armenian heritage alive.

Also honored at the luncheon and presented with certificates of recognition were members who had maintained their membership continuously for the past 25 years.



NAASR'S FIRST BOARD OF DIRECTORS (June, 1955): (left to right, front row) Manoog S. Young, Zabelle Tahmizian*, Gen. Sarkis M. Zartarian*, Abp. Tiran Nersoyan, Rev. Antranig A. Bedikian*, Arminé Dikijian, Prof. Manasseh G. Sevag*; (back row) Thomas T. Amirian, Haig Der Manuelian, Dr. Arra S. Avakian, J. Mark Kolligian*, Richard Malkasian*. Missing from photograph: Prof. Richard N. Frye, G. John Gregory*, Jack Guveyan. (* = deceased).

Priorities, Programs, Activities, and Needs

(Over a Period of Three Years)

National Center for Armenian Studies and Culture	
New Headquarters and Center of Activities.....	\$500,000
(in concert with other organizations)	
Institute for Armenian Studies.....	250,000
(Independent research, scholarship, and studies)	
Armenian Information and Education Center.....	250,000
(Programs and Staffing)	
Armenian Reference and Research Library.....	125,000
(Staffing, Equipment, Furnishings, Services)	
Armenian Book Clearing House.....	25,000
(Staffing and Inventory build-up)	
	1,150,000
Academic and Related Programs	
Expansion and Support of Academic Chairs and Programs.....	500,000*
(including Art Consortium/Tufts U., U. of Mass., U. of Conn.)	
Scholarships, Fellowships, Research and Travel.....	250,000*
Grants, Scholar-in-residence Grants	
Lectureships, Visiting Scholars, Research Programs.....	125,000*
Curriculum Development (including Armenian Genocide Curriculum Project)	
Conferences, Seminars, Lectures, Institutes.....	100,000*
World Congress of Armenian Studies (1986 or 1987).....	50,000
	1,025,000
Publications	
Armenian Heritage Press.....	100,000
(Revolving Fund for Scholarly and Popular Works, Monographs, Reprints, Translations)	
Journal of Armenian Studies and Newsletter.....	50,000
	150,000
Staff, Equipment, and Other Needs	
Equipment (Computer/Word Processor, Typewriters, etc.).....	30,000
Repairs, Furnishings	
Staffing (Executive and Administrative).....	200,000
Miscellaneous.....	25,000
	255,000
* = Endowment Funds; all others are quasi-endowment or current funds.	
Total	\$2,580,000

New Officers Elected

Following the 30th Annual Assembly, the NAASR Board of Directors elected new officers. The Board is now organized as follows:

Executive Committee: Chairman, Manoog S. Young; First Vice-Chairman, Raffi P. Yeghiayan; Second Vice-Chairman, Armen Dohanian; Secretary, Charles S. Sahagian; Treasurer, Erivan Hagopian; Ass't Secretary, Aram S. Karakashian; Ass't Treasurer, Rose A. Hovanessian.

Members-at-large: Gregory H. Adamian, Aharon G. Aharonian (Worcester, Mass.), Richard Ashton (Calif.), William Aznavourian (R.I.), Sonia Bogosian (N.Y.), Richard N. Frye, Nishan Goudsouzian, Elizabeth A. Gregory, Aram Johnson, Gregory S. Kolligian, Hagop J. Nersoyan (Ohio), Dennis R. Papazian (Mich.), Arthur S. Petoyan (Calif.), Pergrouhi N. Svajian (N.Y.).

Genocide Curriculum Receives National Recognition

"Facing History and Ourselves," a curriculum which teaches students about twentieth century genocide, specifically the Jewish Holocaust and the Armenian Genocide, is becoming increasingly accepted and used in public and private schools across the United States and in Canada.

The curriculum, which has become nationally recognized for its excellence in approaching some of the moral dilemmas of modern society, is spreading particularly in the southwestern part of the country, in California, Arizona, and New Mexico. It is offered in more than 40 Massachusetts communities and in some 300 nationwide.

Approximately 26,000 teachers have been reached through the programs of the Facing History and Ourselves Foundation in Brookline, Mass., and it is conservatively estimated that 400,000 students annually are exposed to the curriculum.

The curriculum was developed in the

Brookline, Mass., public school system with the aid of a federal grant. Research on the segment of the curriculum dealing with the Armenian Genocide was made possible through a grant from NAASR for \$35,000. NAASR continues to support the program, for example, by making 10 copies of the curriculum textbook available to school systems in communities with substantial Armenian population that adopt the curriculum.

To date, over 19,700 copies of the curriculum textbook, *Facing History and Ourselves: Holocaust and Human Behavior*, have been sold. It is available through NAASR's Armenian Book Clearing House at \$15.00 (\$12.50 for members).

The curriculum is one of the few which ventures to confront controversial and difficult historical events. It asks students to focus on themes of peer pressure, conformity, individual and group behavior, and the role of the individual in a complex society. Designed initially for junior

high school students, it has been successfully adapted in adult education courses and is also now being used in several colleges and universities.

The growing reputation of the Facing History curriculum has led to an increased demand for workshops, teacher training, and support programs in which a large number of individuals have become involved. Last year, at the Summer Institute, Prof. Richard Hovannisian of UCLA was one of the featured speakers, and several Armenians involved in the teaching profession participated.

NAASR Board Chairman Manoog S. Young has served as a consultant and member of the Foundation and its predecessor Advisory Board for over five years. Dr. Martin H. Halabian of Northeastern University has collaborated in the preparation of the Armenian section of the curriculum, and NAASR's resources and library facilities have been used extensively.

ARMENIAN BOOK CLEARING HOUSE

Most Recent Titles of Note

NAASR's Book Clearing House is the largest distributor in the world of English-language books on Armenian and related topics. A sampling of some recent additions and noteworthy titles appears below. Figures in parentheses represent reduced prices for NAASR members in good standing. A complete list of recent titles is available upon request.

Armenian Jewelry Art: From Ancient Period to Present Days; introduction and commentary by V. A. Abrahamian, edited by H. Sharambeyan (Sovetakan Grogh, Yerevan). A picture album, mostly in color, of the products of Armenian gold and silversmiths through the ages, beginning with a golden medallion made in the 3rd millennium BC and including jewelry, religious objects, crowns, book covers, plates, lamps, etc. Text in Armenian, Russian and English. A126. \$15.00 (\$12.95).

Come Sit Beside Me And Listen To Kouchag: Medieval Armenian Poems of Nahabed Kouchag, translated by Diana Der Hovanesian (Ashod Press). A selection of short lyric poems by the medieval Armenian poet Kouchag, translated into English by the award-winning American poet, Diana Der Hovanesian. T107p. \$7.50 (\$6.50).

Comprehensive Dictionary, English-Armenian, edited by Prof. H. H. Chakmakjian (Yervant Tchaderjian, Beirut). 1326 pages, with pronunciation, meanings, antonyms, synonyms; also abbreviations and foreign expressions. L62. \$40 (\$37.50).

Ermakov: Armenia 1910; text by Mario Verdone, edited by Herman Vahramian (Casa Editrice Armena, Venice). The black-and-white photographs of D. I. Ermakov, of Tiflis, a pioneer in the use of photography to document peoples and monuments, with 77 striking photographs of Armenian sites taken at the turn of the century. A124. \$40 (\$37.50).

Intermarriage and the Armenian-American Community: A Socio-Religious Study, by Aharon G. Aharonian (Aharonian/Maral Press). An analysis of the implications of the high intermarriage rate in the Armenian American community and some recommendations for new approaches to the problem. H227. \$21.00 (\$18.95).

Sad Days of Light, by Peter Balakian (Sheep Meadow Press). A collection of poems by a young and gifted writer evoking the suffering and heroism of his grandmother, who was a survivor of the Armenian massacres and an immigrant to the United States. T102. \$13.95 (\$11.95).

Saroyan: A Biography, by Lawrence Lee and Barry Gifford (Harper & Row). A lively biography covering the flamboyant personal and professional life of the late Armenian American author from his early success in 1940 to his death in 1982. Illustrated. X158. \$18.95 (\$16.50).

How You Can Help:

- ▶ Join
- ▶ Renew
- ▶ Reinstate
- ▶ Participate
- ▶ Publicize
- ▶ Contribute



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